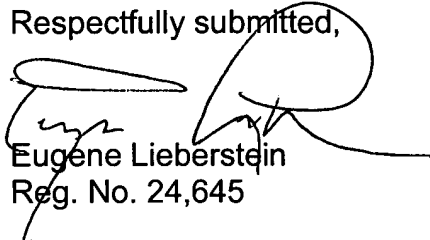


REMARKS

Applicant herewith elects for prosecution on the merits Group II under 35 USC 121 inclusive of claims 12 – 18 and claims 26 – 34 drawn to “a method for reproduction of information recorded on an optical disc”. This provisional election is made without traverse. Nevertheless, applicant reserves the right to file separate divisional applications for each of the other sub-combination groups I, III and IV as identified by the Examiner.

Applicant respectfully requests that prosecution on the merits commence as soon as reasonably possible.


Respectfully submitted,


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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 25, 2004.


Date: June 25, 2004

SUBSTITUTE PARAGRAPH 1 on PAGE 1

Field of the Invention:

The present invention is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 09/004,196 which has issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,097,814 and relates to a managing system of permitting reproduction of program information when the program information to be reproduced is recorded in an optical disc such as a CD (Compact Disc) or a DVD (Digital Video Disc or Digital Versatile Disc), particularly, and relates to improvements in a cipher key producing method, a cipher key writing method, a cipher key reproduction apparatus, an information reproduction method, an information reproduction permitting method, and a reproduction apparatus of optical disc so as to protect an optical disc from illegal utilization thereof and illegal duplication or copy therefrom.